

THE POCAHONTAS TIMES

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CALVIN W. PRICE, EDITOR.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1 1925

This time it was our ox that was gored. I got back from a swing around the circle, to find the county seat with indignation over an article that appeared in the Christian Observer...

For more than thirty years I have been a writer whose subject was Pocahontas County, and I have used up great acres of space in recording the glory of its people. Under the rule, in speaking of others it is incumbent to record their good points first, and if a writer will do this anything like a thorough manner, he will find that though his life may be long in the land that the Lord hath given us, he will not last long enough to reach the place when it is necessary to record their faults...

"I have eaten your bread and salt. I have drunk your water and wine. The deaths ye have died I have watched beside. And the lives that ye led were mine...

The only sense in which this ancient county can be considered a mission field is on account of its sparse population. Organized societies must always depend upon numbers for their material prosperity, but there are compensations in every phase of life. It will be admitted, that in the great congested centers of population...

We have never objected to being called a mission field. We welcome the coming and speed the parting missionary. And all the time we keep the noiseless tenor of our way, maintain our own numerous churches and enjoy the blessings of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Many have gone from this county to other parts of the world, with various fortunes...

Most of our leaders and teachers are native to the soil, but many have come to work and labor among us who were consecrated men, bred in the nature and admonition of the Lord. Occasionally we get a priceless curiosity in the way of a prophet who seems to have been wished upon us, but we know how to deal with these too, for we respect his office and smile at his idiosyncrasies. And so we labor on...

The great industrial centers of the earth present strange contrasts on the same ten acres. Luxury and poverty exist on the same ten acres, but in the mountains the poorest boast is that all men are free and equal. Great men come from the mountains but they are always true to them.

I have some sympathy for the cannibals, if there are any such people, and have come to the conclusion that they are not so black as they have been painted.

Lloyd Osborne, who spent much time in the South Sea Islands has a story entitled Professor No No, in which he portrays the manner in which the natives regarded a scientist who settled among them.

or finger his sticky shadow pictures, he would run at you crying, "No, no!" Were you to approach him as he bathed in the lagoon, marveling at his unsightliness, he would beat the water like one delirious, and scream again, "No, No!" So in time they called him Professor No No. There lived in the village a chief named Malamalama, a young man who owned a fine house and much land, and his wife's name was Salea, and she fell in love with Professor No No, and he repulsed her, and ran at her repellingly, shouting, "No, no!" Malamalama began to drink gin and the more he drank the more he began to feel the aching of his spirit. He stopped all the passers by and told them of his wrongs. Once a pillar of the church, Malamalama was degraded from the rank of deacon and expelled, so that he drank gin with increasing fury, so that he went at last and got a rifle and walked unsteadily to the lagoon, and fired four boxes of cartridges at Professor No No across the taboo line.

Then Tanielu, the pastor, prayed that God's wrath might be averted from so wicked a village, and made a beautiful parable about the Garden of Eden and the serpent.

Then there was a great meeting of the ancients in the speak-house, and the whole matter was inquired into and debated in turns by the ancients, and Salea was declared divorced from Malamalama and she and Professor No No were ordered to marry themselves before the pastor Tanielu.

When the new arrangement was with difficulty explained to the white man, he was as one crazed, waving his arms and screaming out, "No, no!" without cessation, and he persisted thus, to the scandal of every one, until Tanielu, losing patience, struck him on the head and married him immediately to Salea, whose face shone with contentment and happiness.

Then the ancients held another meeting and their fate was settled. And Professor No No and Salea were placed in a boat, and Salea laughed and joked with the men, saying wildly that she was going where none might whip her now to find a beautiful island whereon to live with her husband. Then the sail was hoisted and the sheet put into Salea's hand and in this wise the boat was shoved straight to seaward. Then Tanielu fell on his knees and prayed that Uvea might be delivered forever and ever of such an affliction, and the young men formed a line with their rifles, ready to shoot if the voyager showed the least sign of coming back. And we waited and waited and waited as it became a dimming speck against the sky, and waited and waited until it disappeared. Then, lo! there were explosions of thunder and lightning, and the drought was broken, and the rain descended in torrents, and the little children all threw off their clothes and ran about rejoicing in the wet, while the elders looked at one another, and said, "Lo! Uvea is delivered!"

The above are some of the high points of a long story but the moral is that any race has the power of discrimination and some rights as to the conduct of their own lives. There has been a storm of abuse and criticism levelled at West Virginia of late years and our people are smarting over the bad eminence in which they find themselves, but heretofore they have let our county alone. We were becoming considerably puffed up with pride, and pride is always sinful. We were beginning to say that our merit was being recognized. Thus it was the county of all the world that most nearly complied with the requirements of the eighteenth amendment. We were being held up as an example to follow.

But there is one element from which none can be safe and that is detraction, which consists of disparagement or the taking away from the credit or reputation of another. It consists of opinions and conclusions on the part of observers, and these adverse opinions are not to be controlled or influenced.

Everyone suffers from detraction. What we do not know about what others are saying about us, does not hurt us. But as the Observer circulates among us, we are obliged to take notice of its sayings. We think we have the finest county in which to live, to be found anywhere, but at the same time there is the inevitable modicum of sin and misery from which no country or set of people is wholly free. About all that we can do when such an indictment is found against us by such high authority is to plead not guilty and call for proof. We can do at least that much.

And in addition to that there has been great offense given in the instance we are discussing of such a nature that some of us more or less implicated in the matter are willing to walk barefooted to Buckeye to make an apology.

The article referred to is the one published in the Observer of September 16th, and is a thinly veiled reference to the community on Swago Creek, which centers about the post-office of Buckeye. But as the people of that community are a credit to the county, I take it that it is a county matter. In fact it would take

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a purely arbitrary line to establish the bounds between the Marlinton community and the Swago community. When I was a boy, I lived on the site of the present city of Marlinton. At that time we had a sparsely settled community and Swago had a larger population and I walked there many a time for literary events and took part in them, occasionally accepting invitations to spend the night, one attraction being the square meal so much needed by me in those days.

The Observer has always been fair and able. It has been in our home ever since I can recollect. My father and mother both contributed for the paper for many years. It used to belong to the Converse family, all intimate friends of my father and the corporation owning it is styled Converse & Company. It has been published for one hundred and twelve years. As I wrote to the Editor, Dr. Sweet's, I feel sure that the article appeared through inadvertence, if for no other reason, the rule of the greater truth the greater the libel, would have prevented the publication.

Any editor knows how hard it is to prevent the publication of matter which tends to offend for so many people think that a newspaper is conceived for the purpose of giving offense.

As the issue is raised as to whether Swago is a good place to rear child ren, I think that a short review of some of the results obtained there would present some facts, which would be real evidence, against the glittering generalities of the article in the Observer.

I want to put in this list two preachers who were born just over the ridge from Swago, the late Rev. Dr. Wm. T. Price, for sixty three years a Presbyterian minister, and his nephew, Rev. Dr. H. W. McLaughlin, one of the most eminent ministers of the southern church.

Judge Geo. W. McClintic, Judge of the United States Court for the Southern District of West Virginia, a man of national reputation as a lawyer and jurist.

Rev. M. C. Overholt, minister of the Methodist church. Parkie McNeill, district supervisor Forest, Game and Fish. D. C. Adkison, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Pocahontas county.

Hon. L. M. McClintic, of Marlinton, lawyer, banker, and statesman. Hon. N. C. McNeill, of Marlinton, lawyer, senator, and orator. E. F. G. D. McNeill, member of the bar, traveler, and present principal of the Edray District High School.

Col. O. M. Kee, business man, Marlinton, West Virginia, and Presidential elector in 1920.

J. E. Buckley, Esq., lawyer, post-master at Marlinton, president of his class at Washington & Lee University. Dennis McNeill, a prominent business man of Huntington. Forrest, McNeill, a prominent business man of Clarksburg, twice golf champion of West Virginia.

Dennis Clonnan, soldier of the World's War and medalist of that war. J. S. Kellison, Wesleyan College, West Virginia's only All-American football player.

I am liable to get into trouble myself for leaving names out of this list of fame, but wanted to give those names as examples of what children may become when raised in the lap of Swago, and the list above will serve its purpose.

The reason that the Swago community has such a long list of eminent men is perhaps due to the prudent and pious principles of such a rural community as that from which they sprung, but I have always considered that the children in the schools on that creek showed a marked aptitude for letters from their earliest years, probably due to heredity to a certain extent, but largely to the association of minds naturally keen and bright, so that there was no excuse for dullness or lethargy in school. The mental stimulus that they derived from each other. It is a community of long descent and there are many cherished traditions and there is much reading done there now, and has been for generations.

There is a convention in regard to reports by missionaries that seems to require them to portray an awful state of affairs in the communities in which they have served, especially, if they have been in a foreign field. And the next unoffending people to suffer in their reputation are those who live in the mountains. The lowlanders think of us as people in bondage. They do not like mountains and they do not appreciate the

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qualities of mountain people. Therefore such incidents as this.

It must be admitted however that in every community the art of gossip keeps pace with other fine arts and trades, and no community is safe from gossips. But usually the editor is awake to his duty to see that gossip stops short of the printing press.

The poverty of our language prevented a clear translation of section 1 of chapter 7 of the gospel according to Matthew: Judge not that ye be not judged. The Greeks had a word that cannot be translated in a word, and it might be that the following is a truer translation of that part of the Sermon on the Mount: Control that disposition to look unfavorably upon the character and action of others, which leads invariably to the pronouncing of rash, unjust, and unlovely judgments upon them. Anyway we are not going to stand by and see Aunt Nan McNeill's community assailed with impunity.

Dear Mr. Price:— Your letter of September 22 has just been received protesting against the publication of an article in the "Christian Observer" of September 16, entitled "The Work on Deer Mountain, W. Va." This article was among a number of articles received during my absence on my vacation and sent to us by Rev. Wesley Baker, Superintendent of Sunday School Work in Richmond, Va. I did not read the article before it went into the paper and my assistant who looked over it failed to see the impropriety of publishing it. It was very far from our desire or intentions to publish anything that would reflect on the people of your community.

I regret exceedingly that we published the article and I am preparing a statement that we will publish in the first issue possible, expressing regret over statements that should not have appeared in print. If I had had opportunity to read the article over before it was printed, of course, it would not have appeared. Such slips occur sometimes in any office and I wish to assure you of our very deepest regret.

I have written to Mr. Baker calling his attention to statements reflecting on the people of the community and telling him of our regret that such an article was prepared, for our "Sunday School Rally Day Number." I assure you that we will use all diligence in the future to prevent the appearance of any such articles in our columns. We have always been exceedingly careful about such things, but in this instance a mistake was made, for which we are profoundly sorry. We hope that you will not hold this against the "Christian Observer," in view of our disavowals of any intention to reflect on the people of your community.

With all good wishes, I am Very sincerely yours, David M. Sweet. TO A THOUGHTLESS GUEST We gave you mountain fare, Not reckoning the cost, And I'm not a meaning fodder and meat— His confidence we lost. Friend of our friend you came, — The proper password here, — So we sang our ballads and told our tales To make our friend good cheer. No matter how we know You mocked our ways and looks, Naught's hidden but shall be revealed, Is writ in the Book of Books. Don't think us stricken deep, You'll not be named again. Who breaks our bread, and then breaks faith, Is naught to mountain men. —By Ann Cobb in Outlook.

Pups For Sale Five shepherd pups. Guaranteed heel drivers, black with white ring on neck. 12 weeks old. Amos Gay Ooto, W. Va.

Auction Sale On October 2nd at 1 o'clock p. m. at the Kenna Rexrode place at Durbin I will offer the following household furniture: 1 range stove, 1 kitchen cabinet, 1 dining table, 5 dining chairs, 1 refrigerator, 1 Damascus-sewing-machine, 1 Auto knitter machine, 6 piece mission set, 1 davenport, 3 rug, 1 rocker, 1 parlor table, 1 Davis Victoria, 1 dresser, 2 beds, 2 Oliver oil gas stove, 2 screen doors, 1 porch swing. Frank Francehill Spruce, W. Va.

MINNEHAHA SPRINGS WATER delivered to your door in 5 gallon lots at 10c a gallon. Phone or write. Newton Lockridge. Minnehaha Springs, W. Va.

Mrs. E. N. Moore, of Dunmore; Mrs. Jameson, of Huntington, and Miss Evelyn Burr, of Birmingham, Ala., met here recently and spent a day or two with kin and friends in Greenbrier. —West Va. News.

Bargain Prices on Used Cars Oakland Touring Dodge Touring Three Ford Touring Ford Coupe Two Ford Roadsters Ford Truck Light Delivery Chevrolet Touring Special prices during remainder September MARLINTON MOTOR CO. MARLINTON, W. VA.

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Thin, Pale, Tired? Look Out For Chronic Fatigue One of the most insidious ailments today is chronic fatigue. Thousands are only half-alive, constantly suffering with weakness, nervousness, palpitation of the heart, headaches, etc. —continually taking medicines—when, in the great majority of cases, the real trouble is chronic fatigue. Chronic fatigue is entirely different from the "healthy" fatigue you feel after hard work. Chronic fatigue comes from within. Your nerves, muscles, organs, etc., have become run-down and cannot function properly. To conquer it you must go to its cause—in the blood. For it is from the blood that every muscle, nerve and tissue gets its nourishment. So when you are thin, pale, tired and run-down, it is usually because your blood is thin and pale, lacking in sufficient organic iron to carry strength to the starved tissues. What you need, then, is not mere tonics, but more organic iron in your blood, so it can carry strength and vigor to every part of your body. But don't take the older mineral iron medicines which many doctors now say do little good. Take organic iron—Nuxated Iron—which is like the iron in your blood and like that in spinach and lentils. Unlike ordinary mineral iron it will not injure the teeth or disturb the stomach, but is promptly assimilated. Take Nuxated Iron for just two weeks and you'll be amazed how much stronger you feel—how the color comes back to your cheeks and the sparkle and life to your eyes. Money back if not improved. At all good druggists.

FARMERS LONG TIME LOANS Farmers who must secure loans should borrow through the cooperative Profit Sharing System established by Congress. 1—A loan for 34 1/2 years without renewal. 2—Interest rate 5 1/2 per cent. 3—One per cent annually paid on the principal which pays the loan off. 4—The farmer is the stockholder and receives the profit made on his loan. 5—The only Co-operative Profit Sharing Loan System in the United States for farmers. CONFER WITH P. T. Ward, Secretary-Treasurer, Pocahontas county National Farm Loan Association. MARLINTON, W. VA. Co-operating with The Federal Land Bank of Baltimore.

Notice I have bought Mrs. J. E. Buckley's hemstitching machine and will do hemstitching when marked or basted at .10c per yd. Hemstitching when not marked or basted, .15c per yd Picotting .15. Mrs. Tina B. Smith Marlinton, W. Va.

FARM FOR SALE Two good orchards—good summer and winter apples; eight-bearing peach trees. A four room house and good well, also running water; fine garden; some good timber and locust for posts; good grazing or farming land; milk house, chicken house, barn and cellar. Also two cows, 2 two-year old heifers, 1 calf, one sow and pigs, 15 turkeys, some chickens, household and kitchen furniture; 1 fine green gage plum tree, and pear tree—large trees bearing fruit. About 20 acres cleared; 57 acres in all, lying two miles from Poage Launch church and school house and one mile from Big Run station. Good neighborhood. Car road to the house. Will sell all together or make a separate sale after farm is sold. If interested, come to see or write to Mary E. Dominick, Cloverlick, W. Va.

FARM FOR SALE 12 acres of land one-half mile from Millpoint, 1-2 mile of school; in reach of Hillsboro high school by bus; near church, good neighborhood. All of it can be cultivated; 4 room house, barn and other outbuildings. Estacade Brindley, Buckeye, W. Va.

NOTICE My wife, Blanche Collins, having left my home without just cause this is to notify all persons that I will not be responsible for any debts she may contract. This 7th day of September, 7, 1925 J. M. Collins. Marlinton, W. Va.

BARKED FLYMOUTH ROCKS—After selecting all my exhibition birds for the Pocahontas and Greenbrier Fairs, I have a few nice cockerels left: weight about 4-12 lbs; Holterman's Aristocrat strain. These are all well marked and are as nice those you will see at the above fairs. Price \$3.50 each. R. A. KRAMER. Dunmore, W. Va.

A. P. EDGAR, Attorney-at-Law, Marlinton, W. Va. Courts: Pocahontas and adjacent counties and the Supreme Court of Appeals. F. RAYMOND HILL, Attorney-at-Law, Marlinton, W. Va. Will practice in the courts of Pocahontas and Greenbrier counties, and in the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia. ANDREW PRICE, Attorney-at-Law, Marlinton, W. Va. N. C. McNEEL, Attorney-at-Law, Marlinton, W. Va. Will practice in the courts of Pocahontas and adjoining counties, and in the Court of Appeals of the state of West Virginia.

L. M. McCLINTIC, Attorney-at-Law, Marlinton, W. Va. Will practice in the courts of Pocahontas and adjoining counties and in the Supreme Court of Appeals. P. T. WARD, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW Marlinton, W. Va. J. E. BUCKLEY, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW Marlinton, W. Va. Prompt and careful attention given to all legal business. Dr. E. G. HEROLD, DENTIST MARLINTON, W. VA. Offices in Marlinton Electric Co. Bldg. A. C. BARLOW, Veterinarian and Dentist Ooto, W. Va. M. C. SMITH, Veterinarian Hillsboro, W. Va. All calls by mail or phone given prompt attention. L. O. SIMMONS, BICYCLE REPAIR SHOP Marlinton, W. Va.

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DENTISTRY Dr. Moore N. McKee has opened a dental office in the Lightner building on Main street opposite Marlinton Hotel. He is prepared to do all kinds of dental practice and will be glad to see and serve his old friends and the public generally.

Pocahontas County History A limited number of these books are for sale at \$5 per copy. POCAHONTAS TIMES Marlinton, W. Va.

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